

MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Nov. 4, 2004

DART launch tentatively rescheduled

From NASA Headquarters Release

NASA and Orbital Sciences Corp. postponed the Oct. 28 launch of the Demonstration of Autonomous Rendezvous Technology (DART) spacecraft due to the discovery of particulate contamination found inside the fairing of the Pegasus launch vehicle. The launch team does not expect to launch before Nov. 9.

During the final flight preparations for the DART/Pegasus launch, closeout team members discovered pieces of aluminum foil from the launch vehicle's fairing. As a result, the vehicle will be de-mated from the carrier aircraft and returned to the vehicle assembly building, where it will be inspected.

The DART mission was postponed twice last week. The first postponement was due to a dropout of Global Positioning Satellite data of the target vehicle, which was resolved.

DART is a flight demonstrator that provides a key step in establishing autonomous rendezvous capabilities for

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Photo by David Higginbotham, Marshall Center

Everyone gets involved in Safety Day 2004

A capacity crowd at Morris Auditorium listens to Return to Flight updates and watches Safety Excellence and Safety, Health and Environmental award presentations during the annual Safety Day event.

Karen Hicks becomes virtual Space Station member

By Lori Johnston

Not many people can say they've talked to an astronaut in space, but Karen Hicks can. In fact, it was her job to talk to them everyday as they lived and worked onboard the International Space Station – the orbiting laboratory 16 nations are building 240 miles above Earth.

"Even though I haven't actually lived up there, I still feel like I'm an important part of the Space Station crew," says Hicks. "As the payload communicator I've guided astronauts as they conduct research experiments in space. And as the data management coordinator I've

sent computer commands to experiments onboard the Space Station to obtain information that scientists analyze."

Those are just a couple of the roles Hicks has taken on since joining NASA's Marshall Center right out of high school.

Growing up in Ardmore, Hicks was encouraged by her parents, Jack and Annell Campbell, to look for a career at the Marshall Center, because of her interest in math and science. Hicks also credits her best friend's mother, Christine Casteel, for helping her research academic fields to pursue in college.

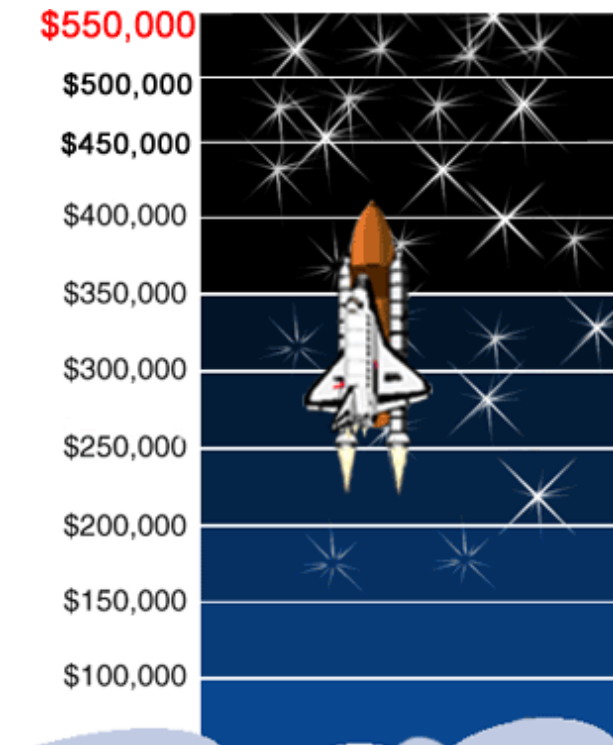
In 1988, Hicks signed on with the

student aid program at the Marshall Center as an administrative aide to help research personnel announcements and other office duties.

After becoming familiar with various engineering programs at the Marshall Center, Hicks became sold on becoming a NASA engineer. She pursued degrees in both electrical and computer engineering at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH).

In 1991, she transferred to NASA's co-op program and worked with a group that trained astronauts and scientists assigned

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Only one week remains for Marshall CFC

The clock is ticking for the Marshall Center's Combined Federal Campaign. Only one week remains for the Center to reach its \$550,000 goal. To date, \$407,509 has been raised, with 43.7 percent of the Center's civil service employees participating. Several CFC- supported agencies still have openings for volunteers during Community Service Days. See "Inside Marshall" for details.

Nominations sought for Marshall Exchange Council

A special committee is accepting nominations from employees for two open positions on the Marshall Center Exchange Council.

The committee will accept names of nominees when accompanied by a petition signed by 20 or more employees. Petitioners must include their Marshall badge number and their signature. The nominee must also sign the petition indicating a willingness to serve.

Candidates must have been employed at Marshall for at least one year.

Council members serve two-year terms. No employee may serve concurrently as a member of the council and as an officer of any exchange-sponsored club or activity.

Deadline for submitting nominations 5 p.m. Nov. 10. Petitions should be mailed to exchange Council Election, CD01X, Bldg. 4315.

A list of nominees and voting instructions will be printed in the Nov. 18 issue of the *Marshall Star*.

Hicks

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to Spacelab — the low-gravity science laboratory that transported hundreds of experiments into space in the Space Shuttle's payload, or cargo bay from 1982 to 1998.

After graduating from UAH in 1994, she continued training for other science activities aboard the Space Shuttle, until transitioning into work on the International Space Station.

Today, Hicks works at NASA's Payload Operations Center — the command post for all science activities aboard the Space Station — at the Marshall Center. She is the first team member to achieve three Space Station certifications: Hicks is certified as a payload communicator — responsible for voice communications with the crew onboard the Station; a Shuttle operations coordinator — responsible for all Space Station experiments housed on the Shuttle; and data management coordinator — responsible for commanding Station systems to collect, downlink and distribute all science information to the scientists for analysis.

Working closely with Space Station crews is nothing new to Hicks.

The best thing about her job, Hicks says, is she's constantly learning something new. "We're on the cutting edge of space technology and international space relations. I'm so happy just to be a part of the space program. It's exciting to work with the



Photo by David Higginbotham, Marshall Center

Karen Hicks sits at a console in the Payload Operations Center.

people who are now figuring out how we will return to the Moon and go beyond. It's an amazing place to work."

The writer, an ASRI employee, supports the Public Affairs Office.

Return to Flight...Safely

Safety Day highlights flight, workplace safety

Marshall Center team members spent Oct. 28 reinforcing safe attitudes and safe behaviors during Safety Day 2004. This year's theme --- Return to Flight...Safely --- re-emphasizes the importance of flight safety and workplace safety. A capacity Morris Auditorium crowd also heard what Marshall is doing to return the Shuttle to safe flight. A safety stroll, safety demonstrations and safety awards were also part of the day-long event.



Alan Poindexter, a pilot on STS-120 and lead support astronaut at Kennedy Space Center, signs autographs in Bldg. 4316.

Photos by David Higginbotham, Marshall Center



Sharon Hancock sings during the Safety Day event.



Chip Moore, left, helps Clara Welch adjust her helmet at a safety booth during Safety Day activities.



Terry Christopher hands out freebies during Safety Day.



The rain didn't stop these team members from taking part in the Safety Stroll.



Amanda Morris, right, age 15 from Chapmansboro, Tenn., helps her classmate Becky Scott, 17, from Memphis, examine the Saturn 1-B base heating model that was used in early Saturn tests at the Marshall Center.

Randy Lufriu, far right, a Lockheed Martin test engineer at Marshall's Hot Gas facility, explains to students the operations and purpose of the Hot Gas Mach 4 Aero-Thermal Materials test. Engineers were testing the Solid Rocket Booster Thermal Protection Materials. Students from the Tennessee School for the Blind toured the Center.

Photos by Emmett Given, Marshall Center



Honor students experience Marshall

High school science honor students from the Tennessee School for the Blind recently visited the Marshall Center where they experienced a hot gas firing, ran their fingers over the RL10 engine and solid rocket fuel samples and talked with several engineers and scientists.

Each year, Norma Engelhardt treats her honor students to a trip to the Center, hosted by the Equal Opportunity Office. The Tennessee School for the Blind, established in 1843, is in Nashville.

DART

Continued from page 1

the U.S. space program and the Vision for Space Exploration. While astronauts have piloted previous rendezvous and docking efforts, the unmanned DART spacecraft will have only computers and sensors to perform all of its rendezvous functions.

Future applications of technologies developed by the DART project will benefit the nation in future space systems development requiring in-space assembly, services, or other autonomous rendezvous operations.

The DART project is funded by NASA's Exploration Systems Mission Directorate and managed by the Marshall Center.

For more information about DART visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/>

'Star' Gazing

From the Marshall History and Archives Files

Forty years ago, Nov. 4, 1964, astronaut Theodore Cordy "Ted" Freeman was buried in Arlington National Cemetery after the T-38 jet he was piloting crashed four days earlier as he was making an approach to Ellington Air Force Base in Houston.

He was in the third group of astronauts selected by NASA in October 1963, and had more than 3,300 hours flying time with 2,400 hours in jet aircraft.

The 34-year-old Air Force captain was preparing to land his aircraft when it struck a goose and lost power. Freeman ejected from the aircraft but did not have sufficient altitude for his parachute to fully open.

Freeman had made several visits to the Marshall Center. He became the first American astronaut to lose his life in the quest for landing humans on the Moon.

Job Announcements

MS05D0015 (outside hire), AST, Fluid Mechanics, GS-13, Propulsion Systems Department, Propulsion Structure, Thermal, and Fluid Analysis Division. Closes: Nov. 15. Contact: Janette Black, 544-8660

MS05D0016 (outside hire), Logistics Management Specialist, GS-13, Center Operations Directorate, Logistics Services Department. Closes: Nov. 5. Contact: Dana Blaine, 544-7514

MS05C0017, Executive Management Assistant, GS-13 (promotion potential to GS-14), Human Capital Office. Closes: Nov. 15. Contact: Jim Bramblett, 544-3398

Announcements

Center honors Native-Americans during celebration, powwow

November is Native-American Heritage Month and the Marshall Center, in collaboration with Team Redstone, is honoring the contributions of Native Americans with several events.

The annual celebration, or powwow, will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 19-20 at the military parade grounds, just inside Gate 10. This year's theme is "Spirit of the Veteran — Honoring Our Elders." All team members, retirees and dependants are invited to write an essay that captures this year's theme. The essay should be no more than two, double-spaced typed pages and must be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday. Individual team members, groups or directorates are also asked to create a display that showcases and honors the contributions of Native Americans to this country. Those displays must be in place by 5 p.m. Tuesday. For more information, call Jerald Kerby at 544-3243 or Karen Russell at 544-6972.

Retired Gen. Franks is lunchtime satellite speaker on Nov. 17

Retired Gen. Tommy Franks, former commander and chief of the U.S. Central Command, is the November Lunchtime Seminar speaker. Franks, a four-star general, will discuss the difference between managing people and leading them to be responsible, empowered and confident. The live satellite seminar will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Nov. 17, Bldg. 4200, Room G-13E. To participate, call Denise McCaul or Gloria Turner at 544-8291.

Schedule use or lose annual leave by Nov. 28

Use or lose annual leave must be scheduled by Nov. 28. Annual leave that is lost due to required public business cannot be restored unless scheduled in writing. Leave requests should be submitted through WebTADS or by e-mail. See "Inside Marshall" for more information or call Mack Blackman at 544-7509 or Amy Rape at 544-7002.

Speaking opportunities available at black engineer conference

Anyone desiring to speak or serve on a panel during the 19th Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference should contact Laura Groce at 544-9154 by Nov. 15. The awards conference will be Feb. 17-19 in Baltimore, Md., and offers seminars, workshops and a career fair designed for black technology professionals. The conference also recognizes outstanding achievements of blacks in companies and government agencies throughout the United States.

Purchase tickets Thursday for Education Week luncheon

The American Education Week luncheon will be 11:30 a.m., Nov. 15 at the Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club. L. Dian Stoskopf, director of education for the U.S. Army Human Resources Command in Washington, D.C., is the speaker. Tickets are \$16.50 and are available from Rosa Kilpatrick in the Government and Community Relations Office until Thursday.

Volunteers sought for robotics education project

The NASA Robotics Education Project is seeking volunteers to support robotics competitions or mentor local teams. The Robotics Education Project sponsors educational robotics competitions and events, facilitates robotics curriculum enhancements and maintains a web site clearinghouse of robotics education information. For more information, call Tammy Rowan at 961-7507.

AARP safety course set

The Marshall Center and the American Association of Retired Persons are sponsoring a safety course for drivers over age 50 on Dec. 13 and 14. The course, limited to 30 people, will be held in Bldg. 4200, Room G13E. See "Inside Marshall" for registration.

Volunteers wanted for High School Senior/NASA Day

Marshall Center team members are needed to share information about their NASA careers with students attending the Alabama A&M University High School Senior/NASA Day Nov. 20 at the university. The activities begin at 7 a.m. and include lunch and the football game. Parking is free. For more information, contact Efrem J. Hanson at 544-6340 or email efrem.j.hanson@nasa.gov.

CFC silent auction bid winner to lunch with David King

Be the high bidder and a student you sponsor --- ages 7-18 --- will spend a Day at NASA. The designated student will tour NASA, have lunch with Center Director David King and attend special briefings. The auction is part of the Combined Federal Campaign. For auction information, go to <http://jtwconsulting.com/cfcauction> and click on Unique Gift Ideas. The bidding ends at midnight Nov. 5.

ASM International chapter to meet Thursday

The ASM International-North Alabama Chapter will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Huntsville. Dr. Douglas Deason, deputy division chief for Advanced Technology Division, U.S. Army Space & Missile Defense Command, will speak. The cost is \$15 and includes dinner. Call Arthur Henderson at 544-2577 to sign up.

Abstract deadline is Friday for Joint Propulsion Conference

Abstracts are due Friday for the 41st AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit in Tucson, Ariz. July 10-13. Abstracts may be submitted online at www.aiaa.org

Classified Ads

Miscellaneous

Wool rug w/detailed crewel chain stitching, 9x12, mauve, blue, green, and tan, \$500. 772-2332
Wood bunk beds, 2-drawers, 3-yrs. old, \$175. 256-728-4113
Complete train set, 4'x7.5', train board w/2 trains, many accessories, \$75. 658-7914
Cherry oval Queen Anne coffee table, \$50; Oak 9-drawer dresser w/mirror, \$100. 519-9326
Canopies for two beds, one metal, one wood, \$20 each; pup tent, \$17. 837-6776
Solid Kincaid Cherry 3-piece entertainment center, 6'Hx8'W, \$1,200. 828-0756
Antique Walnut bed, dresser, two nightstands, \$900; Uniden 5.8gig cordless phone/answering machine, \$100. 653-4240
Men's ski boots, size 10-1/2, black, worn twice, Soloman/Ultralight, \$25. 881-7182
White sofa, 9' long, \$175; Kenmore 18 cu. ft. refrigerator, white, \$190. 430-6842
Antique mahogany two-tiered side table, \$80; antique 3-stack Lawyers bookcase, dark wood, \$200. 353-0370
Antique pump organ, Estey Organ Co., Brattleboro, VT, all works, \$1,600. 881-5258/Brock Nordic-Track ski exerciser, \$75; Jogger stroller, \$70. 883-1874
Two lawn mowers: Yazoo, 24" self-propelled, big wheel, \$200; Lawnboy, 19" push, \$150. 256-227-1327
Sears Lifestyler Cardiofit plus push and pull exerciser, \$65. 922-9311
Four iron dinette chairs w/cushions, \$325; large pedestal iron table, \$95. 882-3065
Kenmore sewing machine w/hard case, 25 stitches, button hole, used 1 hour, \$80. 256-883-1003
Office trailer w/steps, 8x20, \$2,000. 256-739-9467
Phaltzgraff stoneware, 149 pieces, "Village" pattern, plus matching silverware, \$350 negotiable. 353-8010
Camper shell for S-10 short bed, \$125; Rare Bach Stradivarius trumpet, mint, \$1,200. 851-8085
Pennsylvania House Cherry entertainment center, up to 30" TV, \$750. 931-427-2059
Oak roll-top desk, \$450. 256-539-5995
Hydraulic gas-powered log splitter, 722-8004
Full size complete bedroom suite: bed, chest, dresser, nightstands, mattress, bedding, \$700. 256-864-2517
Golden Book encyclopedias for children, 20 volumes, \$30; two Motorola flip phones, Cingular, \$45 each. 883-5168
Conversion crib w/toddler bed kit, \$150; Oak entertainment center, \$300. 776-4458
Pet dog ramp, adjust large or small, brand new, \$70. 256-653-1611
Decorative cast iron vent-free thermostatically controlled zero-clearance gas heater, 35K BTU, \$400.

656-2965
HP 600c color printer, manual, cables, & installation disk, needs ink cartridges, \$50. 325-9264
Oak computer desk and hutch, \$100. 772-7262
Rice maker, in box, \$8; dishwasher, black or almond, \$25; stove/oven w/several accessories, \$50. 828-6213
Paintball equipment, used once, Spyder Victor II, mask, 20 oz. tank, \$145. 830-1820
Two solid Maple single beds, slats, and one box spring, \$100. 256-232-4168/Athens
Solid Oak bow-front china cabinet, claw feet, 46"Wx17"Wx5' tall, \$400. 256-355-1542
Bassett dining room suit, 881-0883
Longaberger basket combos: large pumpkin w/lid, \$160; regular pumpkin, \$110; bountiful harvest, \$70; others. 883-3195
Kerosene oil heater, thermostatic controlled, suitable for heating 1,000 square feet, \$135. 852-5446
Glass tank, 40-gallon, critter/plants/reptiles, non-fish type, w/metal stand, \$100. 828-8630
Little Tykes "Lunar Lander" spaceship play center, complete with porthole, throttle control, slide, \$50. 256-303-3702
Two Alabama vs. Mississippi State tickets, face value. 776-2263
Little Tykes: Cozy Coupe; Hobby Horse, Interactive Play Garden for infants and toddlers, \$22 each. 722-0286
ProForm Crosswalk 365s treadmill, space-saver storage, \$200. 652-0227

Vehicles

2001 Honda 250 Recon 4-wheeler, approx. 20 miles, kept inside, \$3,000. 509-3392
2001 Ford F150 XLT, 4-door, SuperCrew, 4.6L/v8, white, bedliner, tow pkg., 71k miles, \$14,500. 256-426-2224
1996 Chrysler LHS, leather, all-power, moonroof, 144k miles, rebuilt transmission, \$2,100. 852-8750
1997 Mercedes Benz SL500 Roadster convertible, red/cream leather, hardtop, v8, 59k miles, loaded, \$26,500. 256-683-2209
1999 Mercury Mystique GS, 4-cyl., twin cam, auto, 4-door, 145k miles, \$2,875 firm. 256-572-1867
1972 GMC pickup, LWB, 350/v8, AT, some rust, \$1,250. 348-5181
2000 Lincoln Navigator, 4x4, green/tan, sunroof, 6-disk cd changer, new Michelins, \$18,995. 882-2973
1999 Chevrolet 2-door Cavalier, gold, 86k miles, sunroof, \$4,500. 256-883-1003
1994 Chevy Lumina, \$1,500. 256-739-9467
1990 Chevy Camaro w/350TPI, exterior good, interior needs work, \$2,500. 931-762-5846
2000 Ford Ranger Supercab, 3.0/v6 flex-fuel, 31k miles, automatic, air, cruise, am/fm/cd, \$8,500. 256-679-5736
1990 Bayliner Capri, 20.5', bow rider w/trailer,

130hp Mercruiser/Alpha 1,500 hrs. 256-497-3518
2001 Grand Prix SE, white, 4-door, remote start, pw/pdl/cd, spoiler, new brakes, \$5,950. 859-9204
2001 Ford Explorer, \$9,000. 233-6197
1998 Ford Explorer Sport, black, 2-door, v6, 82k miles, towing, alarm, \$6,500. 256-714-9192
1998 Honda CBR 600, 12k miles, garage kept, \$3,600. 256-316-3469
1994 Lexus ES300, emerald green/tan leather, 170k miles, new belts & hoses, garaged, \$5,100. 520-3083
1998 Chevy S10 pickup, v6, auto, a/c, cruise, 173k miles, \$2,950. 232-5809
2001 Coleman folding electric-lift camper, 10'x25' setup, a/c, kitchen, toilet, showers, king-size beds, \$9,500. 931-438-2411
1996 Ford Explorer XLT, 4-door, 110k miles, \$4,950. 256-881-5809
Camper, 38' custom built fifth-wheel, 3 slides, 15' living area, many extras, \$33,500. 757-253-7610
1975 Ford F100 truck, blue, long bed, power brakes, engine problems, \$700. 535-8870
2002 Yamaha V-Star 1100, many after-market add-ons, \$6,350. 256-233-7506
1999 Honda Accord EX v1, 2-door coupe, white w/tan interior, 27k miles, one-owner. 773-0125
1993 Boston Whaler Outrage II, 19', 150hp Yamaha saltwater engine, Load Rite trailer. 256-534-3252

Found

Cell phone, Bldg. 4612 parking lot; Sunglasses, 4200 ladies room. Call 544-3623 to claim/identify

Free

To good home Pureblood Weimaraner, 1 yr. old female, good w/children & other dogs. 508-7615
Two 3-year old Lab/Shepard dogs, spayed/neutered, shots, heartworm prevention, house broken, loves people. 882-6675

Wanted

Ride from near Huntsville Hospital, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., will pay \$7 per day. 533-6980

1998 or 99 Z3 BMW, red, full-features, medium mileage. 256-536-8267

Large fish aquarium, 60 gallon or greater. 256-990-1626

Travel trailer, 20' or longer, pull-behind or 5th wheel. 256-509-5670

To buy several hundred metal fence posts, T-posts. 256-753-0005

Two tickets to the Alabama vs. Mississippi State game. 883-2757

Face tanning lamps. 423-7231

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